

closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, United States Code. The applications and/or proposals and the discussion could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications and/or proposals, the disclosure of which could constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

This notice is being published less than fifteen days prior to the meeting due to the urgent need to meet timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle. (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.173 Biological Research Related to Deafness and Communication Disorders)

Dated: August 28, 1996.

Susan K. Feldman,

*Committee Management Officer, NIH.*

[FR Doc. 96-22392 Filed 8-30-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

### Division of Research Grants; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following Division of Research Grants Special Emphasis Panel (SEP) meetings:

*Purpose/Agenda:* To review individual grant applications.

*Name of SEP:* Microbiological and Immunological Sciences.

*Date:* September 11, 1996.

*Time:* 11:00 a.m.

*Place:* NIH, Rockledge 2, Room 4190, Telephone Conference.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Garrett Keefer, Scientific Review Administrator, 671 Rockledge Drive, Room 4190, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, (301) 435-1152.

*Name of SEP:* Clinical Sciences.

*Date:* September 16, 1996.

*Time:* 1:00 p.m.

*Place:* NIH, Rockledge 2, Room 4100, Telephone Conference.

*Contact Person:* Dr. Jeanne Ketley, Scientific Review Administrator, 671 Rockledge Drive, Room 4100, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, (301) 435-1788.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the above meetings due to the urgent need to meet timing limitations imposed by the grant review and funding cycle.

The meetings will be closed in accordance with the provisions set forth in secs. 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. Applications and/or proposals and the discussions could reveal confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material and personal information concerning individuals associated with the applications and/or proposals, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-

93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: August 28, 1996.

Susan K. Feldman,

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### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### Bureau of Land Management

[WO-310-1310-01-24-1A]

#### Extension of Currently Approved Information Collection; OMB Approval Number 1004-0074

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is announcing its intention to request an extension of approval for the collection of information which will be used to determine the highest qualified bonus bid submitted for a competitive oil and gas or geothermal lease (Form 3000-2) and enable the BLM to complete environmental reviews in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Form 3200-9). The information supplied allows the BLM to determine whether a bidder is qualified to hold a lease and to conduct geothermal resource operations under the terms of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 and the Geothermal Steam Act of 1969.

**DATE:** Comments must be submitted on or before November 4, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be mailed to: Regulatory Management Team (420), Bureau of Land Management, 1849 C Street NW, Room 401 LS Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20240.

Comments may be sent via Internet to: WOCComment@WO0033wp.wo.blm.gov.

Comments may be hand delivered to the Bureau of Land Management Administrative Record, Room 401, 1620 L Street N.W., Washington, D.C.

Comments will be available for public review at the L Street address during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gloria J. Austin, (202) 452-0340.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with 5 CFR 1320.8(d), the BLM is required to provide a 60-day notice in the Federal Register concerning a proposed collection of

information to solicit comments on (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) gives the Secretary of the Interior responsibility for oil and gas leasing on approximately 600 million acres of public lands and national forests, and private lands where minerals have been reserved by the Federal Government. The Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act of 1987 was passed by Congress to require that all public lands that are available for oil and gas leasing be offered first by competitive oral bidding. The Department of the Interior Appropriations Act of 1981 (43 U.S.C. 6508) provides for the competitive leasing of the lands in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A). The Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1001-1025) authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to issue leases for geothermal development. The lands available for exploration and leasing include public, withdrawn, reserved, and acquired lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 established a national policy to protect the environment.

The regulations within 43 CFR Group 3100 outline procedures for obtaining a lease to explore for, develop, and produce oil and gas resources located on Federal lands. The regulations within 43 CFR Group 3200 provide for the issuance of geothermal leases and the exploration, development and utilization of Federally-owned geothermal resources. The BLM needs the information requested on the two forms to process bids for oil and gas and geothermal lands and to complete environmental reviews required by the NEPA.

The information will be used to determine the highest qualified bonus bid submitted for a competitive oil and gas or geothermal resources parcel on